Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, before line heading line BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, insert the following title and paragraph:

A1

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED DOCUMENTS / PRIORITY CLAIM

This application claims priority based on Finnish Patent Application No. FI 9980667, filed March 25, 1998.--

At page 7, after DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS heading, replace first paragraph on page in its entirety with the following:

A2

-- The handling of subscriber location data in accordance with the present invention will now be described by way of a preferred example and with initial reference to Fig. ~~1~~ 2. In this embodiment, the system 2 of the invention is added to an existing or otherwise conventional GSM network 3 by connecting it between the Mobile services Switching Center/Visitor Location Register (MSC/VLR) 4 and the Home Location Register (HLR) 5 via an interface or linking or connection means 1a. When the MSC/VLR 4 exchanges information with the HLR 5, the communication is transmitted through and via the interface 1a of system 2, which selectively picks out the required data from the communication and further transmits the communication from MSC/VLR 4 to HLR 5 without altering the messages or message content therein contained. In this manner the system 2 has obtained subscriber location data by filtering the normal communications between the MSC/VLR and HLR in the GSM network 3. --

At bottom of page 7, beginning at paragraph starting at eighth line from bottom of page, and continuing onto top of page 8, to fifth line from top of page, replace paragraph in its entirety with the following:

--~~The~~ Referring now also to Fig. 1, the obtained or otherwise available subscriber location information is stored in a database 12 of system 2 by operative storage means 13 which functions to store the information in a manner forming a single logical database. This information may for example be utilized in an Intelligent Network (IN) service provided in a PSTN network 6 (to which the system 2 is also connected) in which a Service Control Point (SCP) 7 sends a subscriber data inquiry to a service data point (SDP) 8. As with the GSM network 3, instead of being passed directly from service control point 7 to service data point 8, the inquiry is directed by another interface or linking or connection means 1b to system 2, which can immediately respond to the inquiry by returning the requested subscriber data to SCP 7 or direct or forward the original inquiry on to service data point 8. In the latter case, after receiving a response from service data point 8 the system 2 can add desired or predetermined information to the data obtained from service data point 8, store within system 2 the relevant information returned from service data point 8, and then return the response -- either altered or unaltered -- to service control point 7.--

Near top of page 10 (first full paragraph near top of page 10), beginning at line 4, and extending through line 8, inclusive, replace paragraph in its entirety as follows:

--Fig. 2 depicts a system in accordance with the invention in which the various operating and functional means utilized in and that form the system are implemented as part of the existing network elements. The system 2 is thus physically distributed across a multiplicity of existing network elements, i.e. as additional modules that are built into different existing network elements,

to variously implement the novel functions and features of the system 2. Various existing telecommunication network elements may include a Local Area Network (LAN) and a Service Switching Point (SSP/IP).--